

### Patent Claims

- 5           1.     A pigment, comprising a transparent, platelet-shaped substrate, having a refractive index  $\leq 1.9$ , and an average thickness of individual platelets within a standard deviation of  $\leq 20\%$ , and on said substrate a coating of  $\text{TiO}_2$  and optionally an outer protective layer, said pigment having a silver interference color.
- 10          2.     A silver pigment according to claim 1, wherein the  $\text{TiO}_2$  coating has a layer thickness of 5-300nm.
- 15          3.     A silver pigment according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is an  $\text{SiO}_2$  platelet,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  platelet, a polymer platelet, a single crystal or a glass platelet.
- 20          4.     A silver pigment according to claim 2, wherein the transparent platelet is an  $\text{SiO}_2$  platelet.
- 25          5.     A silver pigment according to claim 1, wherein the average thickness of individual platelets is within a standard deviation of  $\leq 10\%$ .
- 30          6.     A silver pigment according claim 1, wherein the  $\text{TiO}_2$  is in the rutile modification.
- 35          7.     A process for the preparation of a silver pigment according claim 1, comprising a coating of the substrate by wet-chemical methods, by hydrolytic decomposition of metal salts in aqueous medium or by thermal decomposition by a CVD or PVD process.
8.     A process according to claim 7, wherein the  $\text{TiO}_2$  coating is matched to the substrate as to produce a silver interference color.
9.     In a paint, coating, printing ink, security printing ink, plastic, button paste, ceramic material, glass, seed coating, dopant for laser marking of plastics or papers, an additive for coloring of foods or

pharmaceuticals or, cosmetic formulation comprising a pigment the improvement wherein the pigment is one according to claim 1.

10. A pigment composition comprising at least one binder, at least one silver pigment according to Claim 1, and optionally conventional additives.
11. A dry preparation comprising pellets, granules, chips or briquettes of a silver pigment according to claim 1.
12. A silver pigment, comprising a transparent, platelet-shaped substrate, having a refractive index  $\leq 1.9$ , and an average thickness of individual platelets within a standard deviation of  $\leq 20\%$ , and on said substrate a coating of  $\text{TiO}_2$  having a layer thickness of 5 – 300 nm and optionally an outer protective layer.
13. A silver pigment, consisting of a transparent, platelet-shaped substrate, having a refractive index  $\leq 1.9$ , and an average thickness of individual platelets within a standard deviation of  $\leq 20\%$ , and on said substrate a coating of  $\text{TiO}_2$  having a layer thickness of 5 – 300 nm and optionally an outer protective layer.
14. A silver pigment, comprising a transparent, platelet-shaped substrate, having a refractive index  $\leq 1.9$ , and an average thickness of individual platelets within a standard deviation of  $\leq 20\%$ , and on said substrate a coating consisting of  $\text{TiO}_2$  having a layer thickness of 5 – 300 nm and optionally an outer protective layer.